

# NAGS HEAD LINES

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Issue 81

A communications link between you and your government, this publication intends to keep you informed about the "happenings" in your town.

## Town Hall

### Beach Nourishment Update

On October 27 the last grains of approximately 4.6 million cubic yards of sand were placed on Nags Head's beach near Mile Post 12.8, bringing to completion one of the United States' largest locally-funded beach nourishment projects after five months of construction.

A first of its kind for the Outer Banks due to its scale and funding, construction of the \$37 million project, which spanned 10 miles of Nags Head's oceanfront, began on May 24, 2011 when the dredge Liberty Island, owned by Great Lakes Dock and Dredge of Oak Brook, IL, pumped the first load of sand onto the beach. Despite weather and equipment issues, the project finished prior to the required November 2011 completion date.

"Nags Head has shown that a large scale, locally funded project is a viable alternative for communities who have never before benefited, or will no longer benefit, from federally-backed nourishment," said Town Manager Cliff Ogburn. "In addition, we now know that, provided the right mechanisms are in place, nourishment can, in fact, occur during the summer months, in the height of turtle nesting season."

Funding for the project included \$18 million in cash from the Dare County Beach Nourishment Fund and \$18 million in revenue bonds to be paid back over 6 years with proceeds from a 1% increase to the occupancy tax. The 1% tax increase will



A Great Lakes Dock and Dredge dozer puts the finishing touches on new beach near Jennette's Pier.

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generate about \$2 million/year. Nags Head will be able to use the \$2 million/year revenue for 5 years to pay back \$10 million of the bond.

The remainder of the bond will be paid back through an increase in property taxes, which was effective July 1, 2011, of 2 cents town-wide and 16 cents for the oceanside from Bonnett Street (about Mile Post 11.25) south to the National Park Service line. The Town has incurred about \$1 million in engineering costs related to the project.

"The fear of the unknown has caused this project to be controversial at times," Ogburn explained. "But, as this project has shown, we not only have a pristine sand source just off our shores, we also have the ability to dredge and work on the beach during turtle nesting season without incident."

### What to Expect in the Coming Months

Those walking the newly nourished beach may still see scarps, or ledges, as the nourishment sand shifts to a more natural slope. Nags Head's project was constructed at a steeper than natural slope to allow for equilibration to take place naturally, instead of mechanically, which would have added more cost to the project. Several recent storms have hastened the equilibration process, so that the slope of the wet beach has flattened enough for higher wave energy to dissipate more gradually across a wider zone.



The newly nourished beach in south Nags Head on November 21, 2011. At the top of the photo, the new beach tapers to the National Park Service land.

## *Hurricane Irene Repairs*

On August 27, 2011 Hurricane Irene passed through Nags Head creating flooding and high winds. Town inspection teams were in the field within 24 hours of the hurricane's passing to evaluate damage; they identified 460 properties that showed evidence of floodwater incursion or need of structural repair. This "Damage Assessment" list was used initially to provide guidance to Dare County and FEMA to estimate emergency needs, and then to inform agency officials and the public of potential damage that warranted additional inspection and possible repair. The Planning and Development Department has contacted all owners of properties identified on the Damage Assessment list, either in person or by letter (or both in many cases), to alert them of potential repair needs. If you received a letter from us and have already contacted our department, thank you for your prompt attention. If you have not contacted us, please call us at 252.441.7016 to set up a site visit at your earliest convenience. Even if there is no structural or other damage to property visible after floodwaters recede, the infiltration of floodwater can affect electrical systems and major appliances, creating future fire hazards. Permit fees associated with storm repair will be waived until May 15, 2012.



Permit fees associated with Hurricane Irene repairs will be waived until May 15, 2012.

## Review and Comment on Nags Head's Parks and Recreation Plan

The Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Ralph Buxton, presented the Draft Parks and Recreation Plan to the Nags Head Board of Commissioners on October 19, 2011, and it is now available on the Town's website and through the Planning and Development Department in Town Hall. In the face of, changing demographics, economic challenges and emerging parks and recreation trends, the Parks and Recreation Committee felt it was important to evaluate existing facilities, services and resources as well as to look for new opportunities and seek public input.



The YMCA's skate park is just one of many recreational opportunities Nags Head offers. If you have ideas for improving recreation in town, contact Town Planner Angela Welsh at [welsh@townofnagshead.net](mailto:welsh@townofnagshead.net).

A survey to evaluate citizen parks and recreation needs and suggestions was mailed to all resident and non-resident property owners in Nags Head in 2009, and 744 property owners responded with their ideas. The Committee conducted another survey in 2011, which was open to both residents and visitors and was targeted to young adults, teens and children, and 88 people responded. The Committee also hosted a public meeting in May of 2011 to gather input and directed research toward particular issues such as beach and sound access, the YMCA skate park, programming and space needs, facilities maintenance, and public awareness.

The Committee recommended several actions in support of multiple goals, including, improvements and additions to existing facilities, expanding pedestrian and bicycle facilities to create connections throughout Town, promoting community events and publicizing

Town resources. They anticipate that the Plan will be used to guide Town budget and investment decisions as well as provide a framework for partnerships with other organizations and businesses.

Please direct any questions or comments on the plan, or ideas for improving our community's parks and recreational opportunities to Planner Angela Welsh at [welsh@townofnagshead.net](mailto:welsh@townofnagshead.net). Citizen input is important because once adopted, the Plan will be used in long-range planning and grant applications. The Town's Parks and Recreation Plan draft is available for comment: [www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net).

### Need Tax Help?

It is always better to call the tax collector before she calls you. So, if you have any questions or need to set up a payment plan, please call Tax Collector Becky Huff at 252.449.2008.

## **Beach Driving - A Reminder Regarding the Rules**

Driving on the beach in Nags Head is a long-standing tradition that many of us enjoy. When October 1 comes around, we usually don't think twice about stopping by Town Hall or a local tackle shop to pick up a beach driving permit. However, to ensure this tradition is safe for everyone and available for future generators, please take a few minutes to re-read the regulations below.

As a reminder, vehicles are allowed to drive on Nags Head's beach, with a proper permit, from October 1 through April 30 each year. Permits can be purchased at Town Hall, Jennette's Pier, and local tackle shops for \$25 each. Once purchased, permits should be placed on the front, driver's side bumper. Also, keep in mind, deflating your tires will provide a safer and smoother ride on the beach and lessen your chances of becoming stuck in the sand.

Listed below are the rules/regulations that govern driving on the beach in Nags Head.

- No vehicle shall exceed 25 miles per hour in speed.
- No vehicle shall be operated west of the "toe of slope" of the dune except in going to and from the beach area at authorized vehicular beach access points. However, nothing

contained in this section shall be construed to permit driving on the barrier dunes or driving on private property without the express permission of the owner, even though the "toe of slope" may be located west of the private property east boundary which extends to the mean high water mark of the ocean.

- Permitted vehicles going to and from the beach area shall use as an entrance and exit only designated vehicular beach access points.
- Vehicles having permits may be operated on the beach only from one-half hour prior to sunrise to one-half hour following sunset daily.
- Pedestrians, swimmers, and bathers have the right-of-way over all vehicles on the beach.
- Anyone driving carelessly and heedlessly, in willful or wanton disregard of the rights or safety of others, or who drives at a speed or in a manner that endangers people or property, shall be guilty of reckless driving and punished pursuant to Section 1-6 of the Nags Head Code of Ordinances.
- Any person who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor or other drug or who has a blood alcohol level of 0.08 percent or more by weight, who drives on the beach area or going to and from the beach, shall be guilty of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or other drug and shall be punished as provided in Section 1-6 of the Nags Head Code of Ordinances.
- Any operator of any vehicle on the beach area or going to and from the beach must have a current and valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by the state of his residence.

In closing, please respect the beach by following the listed rules and regulations. As always, have a safe winter season and contact Chief Kevin Brinkley at the Police Department (252.441.6386) with any concerns or questions.



Driving on Nags Head's beach is a long standing tradition for many in our community.

# Nags Head Fire & Rescue - *Stop a Fire Before It Starts*

About 3,500 Americans die each year in fires and about 18,300 are injured. You can stop the fire before it starts. Use this fact sheet to learn how to prevent a fire in your home and know what to do if you have a fire.

## Stop the Fire Before it Starts

- Avoid using lighted candles. Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- If you must use candles, ensure that they are placed in sturdy holders.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.
- Keep candles away from children and pets.
- Never leave burning candles unattended!
- Never overload outlets or extension cords.

## Be Prepared for a Fire

- One of the best ways to protect yourself and your family is to have a working smoke alarm that can sound fast for both a fire that has flames, and a smoky fire that has fumes without flames. It is called a "Dual Sensor Smoke Alarm." A smoke alarm greatly reduces your chances of dying in a fire.
- Prepare an escape plan and practice it often. Make sure everyone in your family knows at least two (2) escape routes from their bedrooms.

To learn more on how you can prevent fires and fire deaths, please contact your local fire department's office phone number (252.441.5909) or visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov) or [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

# Treat Your Septic System Well - Get it Inspected!

Have your summer renters been tough on your septic system? Now is the time to treat your system well - get it inspected, and, if needed, pumped.

Nags Head's Septic Health Initiative encourages homeowners, through incentives and educational resources, to have their septic systems inspected and pumped (if

needed) on a regular basis. Inspections of conventional (gravity) systems, with pre-approval by Town staff, are free. Tank pumping, if needed, is eligible for a \$30 water credit (limit 1 every 3 years). The Initiative also offers low-interest loans for the repairs of malfunctioning systems in Nags Head.



If you have not had your septic system inspected or pumped lately, or if you have questions about the repair loan program, call 252.449.6047 or email [Krafft@townofnagshead.net](mailto:Krafft@townofnagshead.net).

# Sanitation Collection Schedule

## Residential

### East Route

Properties south of NC 12/1243 intersection (Whalebone Junction), properties located on NC 12, and properties south of MP 11.5 that lie between NC 12 and US 158 (including Old Nags Head Place)



#### **Summer Schedule** (Begins 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May)

Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday - Collection begins 3 a.m.

#### **Winter Schedule** (Begins last Monday in September)

Monday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m.

### West Route

Properties west of US 158, properties north of MP 11.5/

Old Nags Head Place that lie between NC 12 and US 158, and properties accessed from US 64/264

#### **Same Schedule All Year**

Tuesday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m. (winter) and 3 a.m. (summer)

**Please roll out carts facing the street the day prior to collection day and back to the house on collection day.**

Having a special event and need to rent extra carts?

Call Public Works, 252.441.1122.

## Commercial

#### **Summer Schedule** (Begins 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday - Collection begins 3 a.m.

#### **Winter Schedule** (Begins last Monday in September)

Monday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m.

## Bulk Item/Brush Drop Off/Collection

Bulk items/brush can be dropped off throughout the year at the Town's collection site at 2211 Lark Avenue, across from Public Works. A permit, which can be obtained at Public Works, is required to use this site.

Site hours are Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

From October 1 through April 30, the Town will collect bulk/brush items from your curb by appointment. Call Nags Head Public Works at 252.441.1122 for more information.



## **RECYCLING INFORMATION**

### **Curbside Collection**

Curbside recycling is provided by Outer Banks Hauling (252.480.6699). For \$7.82/month, Outer Banks Hauling will provide a recycling container in which to place your recyclables. The container will be emptied every Tuesday. Outer Banks Hauling offers a seasonal service (3 month minimum contract) for residential properties that may not need recyclable collection all year.

### **Town Collection Points**

Open 24 hours/day

- Nags Head Town Hall
- Nags Head Public Works
- Huron St. Public Beach Access

## Town Boards and Committees

### Board of Commissioners

Mayor Bob Oakes, Mayor Pro Tem Doug Remaley, Anna Sadler, M. Renée Cahoon, and Susie Walters

### Planning Board

Chair Robert Edwards, Carl "Pogie" Worsley, Angelina Lowe, Clyde Futrell, Tom Haddon, Marvin Demers, and alternate Barbara Gernat

### Board of Adjustments

Chair Jack Cooper, Vice-Chair Margaret Suppler, Susan Boncek, Judy Burnette, John Mascaro, and alternates Matt Whelan, Bobby Gentry, and Linda Foster

### Personnel Grievance Panel

John Ratzenberger, Perry White, and George Barnes

### Citizens Advisory Committee

Chair Perry White, Vice-Chair Bobby Gentry, Susan Boncek, John White, Marty Moore, Anthony Maskello, Seth Johnson, Debbie Shepheard, Chris Janush, Richard Lipsky, Toni Parker

### Dangerous Animal Appeal Board

Bob Oakes, Perry White, Bobby Gentry, and Jeffrey Ackerman

Serve your community by volunteering for a Town board or committee. Applications are kept on file for two years for consideration by the Board of Commissioners when vacancies occur. If interested, call the Town Clerk at 252.449.2009 or obtain an application from [www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net).

## Municipal Complex Information

### Town Manager

Cliff Ogburn

### Finance Officer

Kim Kenny

### Fire Chief

Kevin Zorc

### Planning and Development Director

Elizabeth Teague

### Police Chief

Kevin Brinkley

### Public Works Director

Dave Clark

### Town Clerk

Carolyn Morris

### Public Information

5401 S. Croatan Highway  
Administration, Finance/Tax, Water Billing, Planning/  
Development  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
252.441.5508, Email: [info@townofnagshead.net](mailto:info@townofnagshead.net)

### Public Works

2200 Lark Avenue  
Public Facilities Maintenance, Sanitation, Fleet Maintenance,  
Water Distribution and Operations  
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
252.441.1122  
Email: [publicworks@townofnagshead.net](mailto:publicworks@townofnagshead.net)

### Police

Emergency 9-1-1  
Non Emergency 252.473.3444  
5401 S. Croatan Highway  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
252.441.6386, Fax 252.441.7335  
Email: [police@townofnagshead.net](mailto:police@townofnagshead.net)

### Fire and Ocean Rescue

Emergency 9-1-1  
Non Emergency 252.473.3444  
Fire Station 16, 5314 S. Croatan Highway  
24 Hours, 252.441.5909, Fax 252.441.8268  
Fire Station 21, 8806 S. Old Oregon Inlet Road  
24 Hours, 252.441.2910, Fax 252.441.3978  
Email: [fire@townofnagshead.net](mailto:fire@townofnagshead.net)



## NAGS HEAD LINES

Town of Nags Head  
P.O. Box 99  
Nags Head, NC 27959

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## NAGS HEAD Lines

### **Town Meeting Calendar**

Agendas for Board of Commissioners meetings are published in advance in *The Coastland Times*. All meetings will be held in the Board Room unless otherwise specified. Agenda and background material for the Board of Commissioners meetings can be found on the Town's web site at [www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net).

#### **Board of Commissioners**

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. An adjourned session is held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. when the Board has a need to hold a second meeting during the month. Meeting dates are subject to change in the event of a conflict (though this occurs rarely).

#### **Planning Board**

Meets the third Tuesday of each month (except in December when they meet the second Tuesday instead) at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Meeting dates are subject to change in the event of a conflict (though this occurs rarely).

#### **Board of Adjustments**

Meets the second Thursday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Board Room when there is a case to be heard by them.

#### **Community Watch**

Meets the second Tuesday of every other month (January, March, May, and October) at 7 p.m. in the Police Training Room. Call the Police Department at 252-441-6386 for meeting times for the August and December meetings.

#### **Dangerous Animal Appeal Board**

Meets as needed in the Board Room.

#### **Citizens Advisory Committee**

Meets as needed in the Board Room.

#### **Personnel Grievance Panel**

Meets in the Board Room on an as-needed basis when a grievance is referred to them.